NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT PROPRIETOR.

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Letters and packages should be properly

Rejected communications will not be re-

THE DAILY HERALD, published every day in the gear. Four cents per copy. Annual subscription

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

ST. JAMES' THEATRE, Twenty-eighth street and Broad-THE NEW DRAWS OF DIVINISH, Twenty-fourth street.

BOOTH'S THEATRE, Twenty-third at, corner Sixth av. -

OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway .- THE BALLET PAN-

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, corner of 8th av. and 38d st.— EUROPEAN HIPPOTHEATRICAL COMPANY, Matines at 2. WOOD'S MUSEUM, Broadway, corner 36th st. --Perform-

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 13th street. -NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway, between Prince and

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery-Boy DETECTIVE-OUT

MRS, F. B. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE. THEATRE COMIQUE, 514 Broadway .- COMIC VOCAL-15MS, NEGRO ACTS, AC .- DI-VORCE.

UNION SQUARE THEATRE, Fourteenth at, and Broad-way.-NEGBO ACTS-BURLESQUE, BALLET, &C. THIRTY-FOURTH STREET THEATRE, near Third ave

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, No. 201 Bowery. BRYANT'S NEW OPERA HOUSE, 234 st., between 6th and 7th ave.—BRYANT'S MINSTERLS.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTREL HALL, 585 Broadway. -PAVILION, No. 688 Broadway. -THE VIENNA LADY OR-

NEW YORK CIRCUS, Fourtsenta street. -- SORNES IN

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway. DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, 745 Broadway.

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WE HOPE IT ISN'T TRUE-The report that valiant old Spotted Tail and his faithful band perished during the recent snow storm in the

SIR EDWARD THORNTON, at Washington, is of the opinion that the Alabama claims difficulty will be amicably settled. General Sherman, at Rome, thinks so, too. Who knows?

TROUBLE WITH SPAIN .- It is given out that a bill of damages, in connection with Cuban affairs, is being made out at the State Department against Spain, which will make an American case as ugly as that before the Geneva Conference.

AN IMPORTANT CONTRADICTION-The authoritative contradiction of the report that the Cincinnati Anti-Grant Republican National Convention has been postponed till after the regular Philadelphia Republican Convention. There is no postponement, and there will be no postponement of the Cincinnati Convention. It will meet on the 6th of May, and Gratz Brown and Carl Schurz intend to put up there an independent republican ticket if they have to "go it alone."

LORD MAYO'S SUCCESSOR. - Earl Mayo's immediate successor in the office of Governor General of India is Lord Francis Napier, Governor of Madras. He will assume office temporarily in right of executive gradation and may be fully commissioned by the Crown subsequently. Lord Napier is an experienced city. Already we hear the disgraceful servant of the British government. He is well story that the friends of Mr. Fenton, for known in the United States since the time of instance, are willing to compromise his appointment as Minister of the Queen in and support Grant, provided what is Washington in 1857. He has served also in called a Board of Commerce is created here. Russia, Turkey, in Berlin, and at the Hague. With no present power, and no standing age its affairs and to hold possession of its

The Paralysis of Reform-The Duty of the Legislature.

Plainly something more must be done in the way of Reform! The Legislature, which went to Albany with the noise of a triumphant army, has come to a halt. The clamors for reform have died into echoes. We have uneasy rumors from the capital. The old lobby is dead, but its spirit remains, and the ghosts of Tweed and Sweeny and Connolly stalk through the corridors of the Capitol. The necessities of good municipal government are forgotten in the ambitions of Fenton and the yearnings of Conkling. Instead of a resolute, united pull for reform and good government, we have nothing but intrigues affecting the canvass for the Presidency, and petty inquiries about printing and postage

This will never do. The great uprising of the people for reform will come to nothing if the popular voice fails to find expression at Albany. In fact, our whole Reform business has been a disheartening experiment. Thus we had what were called the reform municipal governments, with a superior Board of Aldermen and an unimpeachable company of Councilmen. Has any good come from their deliberations? Is New York any better now than it was under Tweed? Mr. Hall has made certain commendable appointments, has given a republican the control of the greatest department in our municipality, and has nominated to be Park Commissioners our unexceptionable citizens. And yet all the reformers have done to Mr. Hall has been to indict him. Our reform Aldermen began their work by an intrigue, and already some of the best men are contemplating retirement. Instead of one definite, acceptable charter, embracing the sound principles expressed in the HERALD and welcomed by public opinion, we have half a dozen charters eagerly pressed at Albany by retainers of the old lobbies, and old gentlemen in spectacles, much more concerned about the tavern fare than legislation. Will any good come from these enterprises? Will any good come especially from the communist charter of that body of well-meaning, helpless men called "The Committee of Seventy?" There is an Arabian custom which expresses the situation. When the turban or burnous of the Arab is infected with insects and becomes uncomfortable he takes it off and places it on the ground. In time a colony of different insects infest the garment, drive the possessors off, and remain in possession. Thus far one swarm of vermin has only driven another from our municipal garments. This certainly is not reform.

If we had patriotic men in Albany, if the

representatives really spoke for the people, there would be no difficulty in solving this problem. Nothing could be more simple. The best government is free from any complications. We do not want a problem in algebra, or a law based upon the principles of sidereal astronomy, or a mysterious treatise on metaphysics, saying one thing and meaning another. We have had too much occult legislation, too many legal tricks, more than enough of mountebank charterism. The simplest laws on record are the Ten Commandments, and they are about the only laws now established among men which do not need notes and commentaries and learned decisions to reveal their meaning. If this sacred and venerable example is not apt we shall be content with the Constitution of the United States. There is no better code of human laws. It has stood war and peace and the stress of many years, and is to-day as sound as when it was adopted. Cannot we do as well by the charter? We care nothing for the details of the document. When a charter says too much it means too little. We want certain clear, defined principles. We need a head to the municipality. Instead of ten governments by which we have been afflicted and harried, and through the meshes of which corruption has poured its polluting flood, let us have one charter, expressing certain general laws and constituting one symmetrical, responsible, respected government. Let there be one chief magistrate who will hold the heads of departments to a rigid accountability, and answer for his well or ill doing to the people. Let there be municipal bodies of wise men representing the capital and the labor of the city. Let the Mayor have a term as long as that of the President, and to be removed from the temptation of an undue use of his patronage by being ineligible for reelection. Let us have an end of this chaotic aggregation of villages and towns on the banks of the North and East rivers, and one compact, consolidated metropolis worthy to rank with London and Paris. New York is a misnomer. We have not a city, but the frag-

As we have said again and again, reform does not mean to break down, but to build up. Nothing hurts a city like New York so much as experimenting with its interests and authority. Every new charter scheme is only a confession of weakness and debility. If we are to make a charter to-day which must be pulled down to-morrow; if we are simply to legislate one class of politicians into office only to legislate another class into retirement; if New York is to be pulled to pieces by every Assembly that meets in Albany, merely to suit the exigencies of a political campaign or the self-seeking of party leaders; if the mistakes of the Tammany charter are to be supplemented by the mistakes of an anti-Tammany charter; if the men who have robbed the city of twenty millions are to be succeeded by men who will take forty millions, the better for all will it be when the whole old bandits are better than the new ones, for they have stolen enough to give us a reasonable assurance that they are satisfied. A robber with a million in his pocket will have more inducements to lead an honest life than the raw thief setting out on his career. He does not want plunder but immunity, and no half-way charter will be as welcome or efficient as the old one. The charters proposed are half-way charters. They are meant for a party and not for the

with General Grant and no control over the miserable patronage of the Custom House, they will come into line and support the party if the city is turned over to them. Now much as we value the necessity of supporting Grant New York has no concern with the experiment. She wants a government "of the people-for the people and by the people," and any corrupt combination of this kind will be as villanous as any of the charters or tax levies of the Ring. Having made the charter, the next duty

of these Albany reformers is to investigate the Erie ring. The time has come when this Erie ring, with its shameful dishonor and rapacity, must be overthrown. It is not too much to say that as a nation we have lost more money by the timidity of our legislators in dealing with Erie than we could possibly hope to gain from the payment by England of our consequential damages. No American can take a bond or security into a foreign market without feeling the iniquities of Erie. The curse of Erie rests upon every American enterprise, no matter how worthy. Thinking men abroad rightly say that if one railway can pursue the course of Erie other railways can be manipulated in the same way. To a great extent Erie rested upon Tammany. Now that Tammany has

fallen why should Erie live? The moral effect of the great victory at the polls last November will be lost if we are to have an atrophy of legislation at Albany. If the people cannot express their will at the polls in any manner, no matter how emphatic, without an assurance that it will be respected, then of a surety we have no longer a representative government. The resignation of poor Terwilliger, because he accepted his time-honored dividend out of the printing business, the solemn inquiry into the bank accounts of Senator Wood, to see whether he really borrowed money from Tweed, the busy inquiries into the abstraction of postage stamps from the Treasury, may interest a few party politicians eager for place, but make no impression upon the country. This is not reform. It can scarcely be called a pretext for reform, and is really an insult to that mighty, impatient people who mean to have a government for New York worthy of the metropolis, and an overthrow of a Ring of desperate railroad jobbers, who have brought disgrace upon the American name, stifled credit, made our finances uncertain in foreign markets, and interfered with the generous and natural growth of business between the two worlds.

The people have destroyed Tammany. What has the Legislature done? Really nothing but investigate Terwilliger. Three things these members must do-overthrow Erie, purify the Bench by punishing the unworthy members, and give us a fair, honest, wise and comprehensive charter. Failing in these things this Legislature, elected with so many hopes and prayers, will be doomed to an infamy which has no parallel in the checkered history of Albany legislation.

The Issue Between the People and th

Erie Ring. While the Erie Railroad jobbers-the word might as fitly be written with an "r"-with that magnificent disregard of decency for which they have become notorious, have been steadily pursuing for the last six weeks their accustomed efforts to corrupt the Senate and Assembly of the State, and to buy up votes like so much merchandise, they have not neglected other resorts to defeat legislation adverse to their interests by the so-called Reform Legislature this session. One of their tricks is to raise an outcry against foreign control of the road, and upon this theme they have been harping every day. Another is, to act by bribery and corruption was reprehensible, but to lay the blame of that work on the murdered Fisk, and to plausibly urge that, after all, the Classification act is a good law, inasmuch as it insures the presence of experienced men at all times on a board of directors. Yet another is to endeavor to befor and obstruct legislation by causing all sorts of bills to be introduced under the specious mask of reform, but in reality designed to divert public attention from the true issue and to afford timid members an opportunity of shirking the responsibility of a direct vote in favor of the "Ring" they were elected to destroy.

Now, the issue between the people and the Ring is simply direct and easily understood. The lawyers who are now pleading so eloquently before the Legislative committee for the rights of corporations and against the arbitrary powers alleged to be sought by the Attorney General of the State cannot change that issue or conceal it from public view by any amount of legal dust they may raise. Indeed, it appears to be pretty well understood that their long speeches are only made for the purpose of gaining time, so that the rush of ousiness at the close of the session may enable the Legislature the more easily to do the bidding of the Ring and defeat all reform measures. The leaders of the Ring managed long ago, by the aid of bribed Legislatures and friendly Courts and a reckless defiance of law, to obtain possession of the property of the Erie Railroad, in opposition to the wishes of a large majority of the stockholders. They would have failed in retaining it until this time, however, but for the passage of the Classification law, which tied the hands of the stockholders and gave the Ring a certain lease of power for at least five years, This special bill was passed by bribing and corrupting members. It is notorious that the men who voted for it, except such as were in some manner or another bound to the existing direction, were almost all paid for their votes. "scheme of reform" is abandoned. The It is now proposed by Senator O'Brien to repeal the Classification act, thus corruptly and unconstitutionally passed, and to give to the stockholders of the Erie Railway the privilege to elect a Board of Directors at an early day. Nothing in this bill conflicts with the rights of any bona fide stockholder. It does not discriminate against any of the present directors or against any of their friends and supporters who may own stock in the road. It gives a vote to every man entitled to one, and provides in every way for a fair election. It is, therefore, not an anti-Ring bill, provided the gentlemen who constitute the "Ring" actually represent a majority of the stockholders of the corporation. If they do not, then they should not claim the right to man-

property. By opposing a fair election they place themselves in the position of endeavoring to hold on by force to property belonging to other men. It is clear that this bill ought to pass, and we learn from our Albany correspondence that Senator O'Brien is resolved to bring the slippery Senate to a record on the question. That is right. Let us see how many members of a reform republican Legislature will venture to vote against a law which only seeks to give the stockholders of this corporation the right to control their own property. Let us know how effectively the executive successor of Colonel Fisk has worked upon the consciences and the financial needs of the members of the present Legislature.

Congress Yesterday-How the French Were Supplied with Arms-Is It a Blank Cartridge or Is It a Bombshell?

The resolution which Mr. Sumner offered in the Senate some days ago, to institute an inquiry into the means by which the French were supplied with arms from this country during their late war with Germany, came up yesterday for consideration, and elicited quite a lively discussion. The friends of the administration-notably Messrs. Conkling. Morton and Carpenter-had no hesitation in recognizing the resolution as an attack upon the President and Secretary of War, and extended an invitation to Sumper to "lay on." The Massachusetts Senator, of course, disclaimed any other motive than that of a high sense of public duty, and expressed great re-luctance at having that duty imposed upon him. Mr. Sherman attempted to divert the Senate into a more useful branch of business than that of entering on a political debate, and rebuked the majority for being so readily excited by a waving of the red flag in the hands of their adversaries. He subsequently alluded directly to Sumner as one of the adversaries, and inquired whether there could be any motive in bringing up the resolution except to provoke a political discussion? Morton and Carpenter took rather conflicting views of the effect and character of the resolution, the former describing it as a "blank cartridge," which he wished to have exploded at once, and the latter recognizing it as a "bombshell," intended to blow General Grant and his friends out of water-we suppose he meant hot water. Sumner's colleague, Mr. Wilson, favored the fullest and promptest investigation of the subject, and not fear that the result would be injurious to the administration even, although mistakes might have been committed. The people, in his opinion, were magnanimous enough to forgive any such mistakes. In a subsequent part of the debate he stated in detail the facts so far as the War Department was connected with them. That Department had sold, between 1865 and 1871, arms to the amount of over fifteen million dollars, which had all been paid into the Treasury, and had never sold a dollar's worth to the French government or to any one known to be its agents. We fail to see how, with this state of facts. Mr. Sumner can expect to make any political capital out of his resolution or of the investigation which he is aiming at. No decision of the question had been arrived at when the Senate adjourned.

In the House the order of the day-coming after several propositions for erecting government buildings at Indianapolis, Hartford, Cincinnati and Quincy-was the Naval Appropriation bill. A good deal of discussion of no general interest took place upon it in Committee of the Whole, and amendments were adopted prohibiting political influences in the employment or dismissal of mechanics and laborers in the government navy yards, and leaving their selection with the several heads of the various mechanical departments without interference from officers of the navy.

The bill to remove all import duties from tea and coffee was reported in the House from the Committee of Ways and Means, and referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union. Mr. Finkelnburg, who reported it, stating that a majority of the Committee of Ways and Means, including himself, was opposed to it. The debate upon it will open up the whole tariff question.

The Mardi Gras Festivals at New Orleans. The Mardi Gras festivities of Tuesday last in New Orleans, as will be judged from the report of them which we give to-day, must have been, as Miss Lily Lovejoy would express it, "perfectly splendid." Indeed, from all the descriptions that we have had of such festivities in Paris for many years, we should judge that Paris itself has at last been eclipsed in Mardi Gras by New Orleans. Think of a great procession in these latter days, and in this country of hard facts and ntilities, representing the "Dream of Homer," the living embodiment on a holiday parade of the heroes of the Iliad and the Odyssey; and of the gods and goddesses, with the mortal champions on both sides of the immortal siege of Troy! Why, it marks a new epoch in our bistory as a people. It is the beginning of a new life to us, in which this eternal delving and driving and drudging and scheming for money will be modified and softened and brightened and sweetened, made merry by charming festivals and days devoted to fun. We have few enough of such days, God knows, and we welcome this splendid New Orleans festival as a sign that we are going to have more of them. And the Grand Duke was there, and he enjoyed the festival and the fun with a princely relish. We dare say, too, that next to his buffalo hunt in Nebraska, and that Arabian Night's entertainment with Spotted Tail and his Indians, the Grand Duke will remember this New Orleans "Dream of Homer" most vividly of all the events of his American tour to the end of his life, Let our young men of this city read the account of Tuesday's day of fun in New Orleans and see if they cannot next year get up something that will eclipse it in New York.

THE REFORMERS, with a rush, have swept Staten Island "from the centre all round to the sea." The Ring is broken, reform is victorious, and the island is to be illuminated with "the good time coming."

"EUREKA."-We have found it-the incorruptible Legislature; for it has been proved by actual investigation that the Legislature of Wisconsin has been tried by the lobby with bribes for jobs, and that not a member has been corrupted. Hurrah for Wisconsin!

The Departure of the English Livingstone

The intelligence that the English expedition raised to search in the interior of Africa for Dr. Livingstone has left London, the necessary funds having been subscribed to defray its expenses, gives us great pleasure; for this expedition in the cause of humanity and science is in good season to do great things. So much for the stimulating example of the New York Herald, in the expedition of our experienced, intelligent and courageous Oriental traveller, Mr. Stanley, in search of the long-missing African explorer. It was this example which spurred up the national and professional pride of the members of the London Royal Geographical Society, and other public spirited Englishmen co-operating with this society, to the resolution of the expedition on their part which has just sailed for Zanzibar. Otherwise, we apprehend, the Royal Geographical Society would have followed the example of Her Majesty's government in leaving Dr. Livingstone, with all the chances against him, among the wild tribes of Africa's equatorial lake basin to shift for himself. However, with the courteous Sancho Panza, let us be thankful for what has been given us, "nor look the gift horse in the mouth.

We are deeply gratified with the departure of this English expedition, because we fear that if Mr. Stanley is still alive he may be among those treacherous African savages, entangled, as Livingstone has been, in difficulties from which he cannot extricate himself. We do not give him up; for we know, from similar Arab reports in reference to both Dr. Livingstone and Sir Samuel Baker, that these imaginative Arabs cannot be classed with our "reliable contraband." If, therefore, this English expedition, which goes directly by steamer to Zanzibar, via the Suez Canal, shall be in time, in leaving Zanzibar, to cross the swampy district between the coast and Unyanyembe before those equatorial spring rains come on (which we think can and will be done) we may expect, a few months hence, some definite information in reference to our explorer, Mr. Stanley, and his followers. Thus the chances for the recovery, if still alive, of both Stanley and Livingstone are greatly increased; for, with the intimate knowledge of Eastern Equatorial Africa possessed by Dr. Kirk, and with all the facilities which will be provided for this London expedition by the English Consulate at Zanzibar, we suppose it will be amply equipped to push its way, without a serious detention, through to Ujiji, on Lake Tanoanvika.

And then, what then? Why, then we hope that the expedition will return, not only with Stanley and Livingstone, but with a vast amount of most valuable and interesting information from that wonderful equatorial lake basin of Africa. It is settled by the actual observations of Speke, Grant and Burton that the great lake Victoria Nyanza is one of the fountain-heads of the Nile; Sir Samuel and Lady Baker have seen for themselves that the stream from another great lake which is their discovery, the Albert Nyanza, is a head stream of the Nile. Dr. Livingstone supposes that another great lake south, the Tanganyika, flows into the Albert, which, if true, lengthens the great river some six or seven hundred miles. But so far we know very little of the size of these lakes or of the network of the great mountain system around them. There may be many lakes where only two or three are supposed to exist; and there may be, as reported to Stanley, another great lake west of Tanganyika. Most of these unsettled questions, we hope, will be solved with the success of this English expedition in recovering the lost explorers, or at least in recovering the records of their adventures and discoveries.

As for the HERALD expedition up the Nile in search of Sir Samuel Baker, we have no fears concerning it, as it is under the special protection of the enlightened and liberal Khedive of Egypt.

THE REVOLUTION IN MEXICO has assumed overwhelming proportions, and now bids fair to obtain the mastery over the government of Juarez. Our special despatch from Matamoros reports more fighting. The important city of San Luis is closely besieged and hourly expected to fall into the hands of the revolutionists. A battle near Puebla is reported to have taken place between General Diaz, the head of the revolution, and General Rocha, the foremost commander on the side of Juarez. The government forces were completely routed, and the famous city of Puebla is now threatened by Diaz. This news leads to the supposition that the days of Juarez's Presidency are numbered. Suppose the government of Juarez overthrown, what then? By the light of past experience of Mexican affairs, we should predict another government of short-lived existence, another revolution headed by some discontented general, more pronunciamentos, more fighting, more chaos, and so on until the end of the

ANOTHER FATAL RAILROAD ACCIDENT .-According to our despatch from Susquehanna last night a siding engine, kept near Owego to assist heavy laden trains up the grade there, exploded with great violence, the engine being lifted off the rails and falling down an embankment eighty feet high. One man was instantly killed, and the engineer and driver and four other men, in a caboose at the rear of a train they were assisting, were seriously injured. We suppose the officials of the Erie Railroad will make an "investigation," the Coroner will render a verdict exonerating everybody and the poor man, whose life would probably have been saved had a proper inspection of the boiler taken place, will be placed underground and forgotten, while the widowed wife and orphan children will be cast upon the cold charity of the

THE STORM IN IOWA. -We publish to-day an account of a terrific storm in Iowa which must have startled the inhabitants of Sioux City and other places within its area to no small degree. Early in the morning the weather was mild and warm, and in two hours afterwards the thermometer fell forty degrees; a blinding snow storm set in, the wind rose until it reached a perfect hurricane and the weather became so cold that a man leaving Sioux City with a team, having only eleven miles to travel, was overtaken and frozen to death, and his body was afterwards found only five miles from where he started.

The Approaching Elections in New Hampshire and Connecticut.

Were it not for the letter of Mr. Hubbard,

accepting the democratic nomination for Governor of Connecticut, we could scarcely imagine that an important election is to occur in that State and also in New Hampshire within a few weeks. The election in New Hampshire takes place on the 12th of March next, and that in Connecticut on the 1st of April. In the absence of any popular demonstrations on either side in New Hampshire it is possible that a little secret electioneering is going on, laying out, as it were, the field for future manœuvring. No doubt the friends of the administration are extremely anxious to secure the endorsement of the Granite State in favor of General Grant; and, as the State went democratic last year by but a little over three hundred majority, they hope by extra exertion to secure the wished-for success. But, meanwhile, the democrats are not likely to lose their hold upon the only democratic New England State without a severe struggle, and the outlook at present is confessedly in their favor. Next week, probably, we shall hear of the commencement of the campaign in New Hampshire in earnest, as some of the old war horses—such, for instance, as Walter Harriman on the republican side and John N. George on the democratic side, are among the entries for the early contests. In Connecticut last year the republican candidate for Governor was elected by barely one hundred majority over one of the most popular democrats in the State. The selection of a new man for that office as the democratic standard bearer leaves open for the present the question whether he will be able to retain his predecessor's strength and gather a few liberal crumbs that may fall from the republican table and thus secure his election, or whether he will be abandoned by some old prejudiced and incorrigible copperhead democrats, and thereby be defeated. In his letter of acceptance Mr. Hubbard, it will be seen, speaks out very plainly on many prominent topics, and his triumph at the approaching election will be a pretty sure forerunner of a republican defeat in the succeeding fall unless the troubles in the republican family be healed, and all the malcontents-Sumner, Trumbull, Fenton, Schurz, Farnsworth, Forney and the rest, "little dogs and all"-give a united support to General Grant, provided he shall be the regular republican nominee.

The Blockaded Pacific Railroad.

The company has at length come out with a card, which we publish elsewhere, in reference to the disastrous blockade of their line in the West. After giving a short résumé of similar difficulties since the opening of the road, and the great obstacles to be overcome and expenses to be met to effect the necessary repairs, the company state that in attempting to work the snow ploughs during the present winter no less than nineteen engines were disabled in one week. In fact, the magnitude of the snow drifts has bafiled their best plans, and their most strenuous efforts have been rendered nugatory by the continuance of the storms and drifting snow. Passengers would naturally murmur at any delay, but they maintain no actual suffering has been reported, and provisions have been duly forwarded to all the stations and places where the trains were blocked in. There is one point, however, the company skips lightly over, and that is, we are something like thirty-five mails behind here in New York. Business men are entirely in the dark as to what is transpiring in the West and on the Pacific coast. If provisions could be forwarded it would seem that at least some portion of the mails might have been brought back by the empty vehicles; have been made. If the company cannot bring forward the passengers they should have tried to have the mails brought on. This is a matter for the consideration of the government also.

COLONEL FORNEY'S POSITION, in the language of the famous John Randolph, "is clear, sir; clear as the light of that window, sir, which is not very clear."

Our Art Progress.

The rapidity with which important art sales have succeeded each other within the past few months gives indisputable evidence of the rapid growth of art taste among our people. If we examine the nature of the works which have been lately offered to the public we shall be pleased to notice that not alone has the desire to possess works of art increased, but that there has also grown up something of a correct appreciation of good work. There seems to be more knowledge of technical merit than could have been expected in a people who, up to a late day had had neither time nor opportunity to become acquainted with the best examples of art. We cannot look upon the taste displayed in

the selection of subjects with the same satisfaction that we do on the recognition of technical power, but are content to hope that time will introduce a healthier state of thought in this particular. It is certainly reassuring to find that good paintings of different orders are sure to find purchasers, although the most marked inclination is exhibited to modern society pictures, in which our elegants can flatter themselves that they see a reflection of themselves. However, in view of the liberal reception accorded to the White collection and the anxiety manifested to secure the best pictures on the occasion of this sale, we believe that there is reserved for art in America a brilliant future. If proof were wanted that the attention awakened by Mr. White's pictures was not a transient feeling it would be furnished by the interest manifested by the large number of people who daily visited the Leavitt Art Rooms to admire another collection of almost equal interest.

Genre painting, which has not yet found a really great exponent in America, has always been a favorite department of art with the general public. It appeals, if not to their higher conceptions, at least to their familiar feelings, and is pleasing, if not very instructive or elevating in its influence. The weakness of our native school in this department renders us almost completely dependent on foreign artists for our supply, and as those who take an interest in art seldom have the opportunity to see a large number of paintings of this class at one time, tha